

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This application is a continuation of and claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/231,926, ~~filed on January 14, 1999~~, entitled "MECHANISM FOR AUTHORIZING A DATA COMMUNICATION SESSION BETWEEN A CLIENT AND A SERVER," which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,412,007 on June 25, 2002; the content of which is incorporated ~~herein~~ by reference in its entirety for all purposes as if fully disclosed herein.